This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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I hate nothing except hatred.
—Anatole France.

WHOLE NO. 1366 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1937 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 27, NO. 25

Rights of Workers Under Social Security Act Stressed by Green

A. F. of L. President Urges Unions to Study Unemployment Provisions During Two-Year Period of Funds Accumulation Before Benefits Are Paid and Insist That State Laws Include the Privileges and Immunities Guaranteed the Jobless by the Federal Law.

Declares That "Workers Do Not Have to Violate Their Union Principles in Order to Get Unemployment Benefits; They Do Not Have to 'Scab,' Under-cut Union Standards and Rates, or Forego Union Membership"; Warns Against Misinterpretation of Prevailing Wage Rate Clause.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—A warning that organized labor must "emphasize the principle that social security is a right of the wage earners and its formulation and administration should be studied accordingly," was contained in a letter sent to all A. F. of L. state branches and city central bodies by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, analyzing the principles and procedure under the Federal Social Security Act, with special reference to the unemployment compensation provisions and the state laws enacted in accordance therewith.

"We have now made substantial headway in securing the enactment of unemployment compensation laws as purposed under the Social Security Act," the letter said. "Under no state law can payment of benefits begin until contributions have been accumulated for a period of two years. Only one state (Wisconsin) is now paying benefits.

"Under the Federal old age benefit provision monthly benefits will begin in January 1942, with lump sum payments in the interim.

"While we are waiting for our social security measures to accumulate funds is the period in which we should be studying the administration of social security benefits. If we can have general agreement upon principles which should control decisions, we shall be in an advantageous position to advance Labor's interests and protect Labor's rights.

Adequate Benefits Demanded

"Our first responsibility is to emphasize the principle that social security is a right of wage earners and its formulation and administration should be guided accordingly. Those denied opportunity to earn a living have a right to compensation for loss of job. We shall continually be urged to consider questions of financial economy and conservation of funds which restrict security for Labor. Upon us will rest insistence upon adequate benefits for the unemployed—putting conservation of human beings above conservation of finances.

Rights of Jobless Emphasized

"There will rest upon unions responsibility for seeing to it that the administration of social security maintains rights which the Federal Social Security Act requires every state law to embody.

"An unemployed worker may, without losing compensation, refuse a

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LUMBER MILL WORKERS OBTAIN BETTER WAGES

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Following a month's strike the employes of the Cass Lake Lumber Company's saw mill at Cass Lake, Minn., returned to work under an agreement negotiated by Timber Workers Local No. 2776, providing wage increases of approximately 60 per cent. The agreement recognizes the local as the bargaining agency of the men.

The saw mill employes had been receiving as low as 19 cents an hour prior to the strike. This was increased to 22½ cents an hour when a strike was threatened. The minimum wage negotiated by the union is 37 cents an hour.

A wage increase of 7½ cents an hour from the Blodel-Donova Mills is announced by officials of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union of Bellingham, Wash.

Electrical Workers Negotiate Agreement Covering 3,000 Crosley Radio Employes

Green Says Pact Finalized in Cincinnati Safeguards Autonamy of Machinists, Engineers and Other Unions.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has negotiated an agreement with the Crosley Radio Corporation of Cincinnati, Ohio, covering over 3,000 employes, according to an announcement here by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

"President Hurst of the Cincinnati Central Labor Council and Ellsworth Bundy, Special Representative of the American Federation of Labor, negotiated and signed a closed shop contract with the Crosley Radio Corporation at Cincinnati on June 17," Mr. Green said.

"This contract covers more than 3,000 members who will be accepted into the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

"In negotiating the contract the autonomy of the Machinists, Engineers and other organizations was recognized and maintained.

"The representatives of the American Federation of Labor who succeeded in their efforts to organize the employes of the Crosley Radio Corporation and who negotiated the agreement for collective bargaining between the representatives of the workers and the management, were quietly at work carrying on an organizing campaign among the employes of the Crosley Radio Corporation for a number of months.

"The contract provides for union recognition, for collective bargaining and for the establishment of a cooperative relationship between employer and employes."

14,000 Chicago Street Railway Employes Negotiate Agreement for Increased Wages

Two Million Dollars Added Annually to Pay Envelopes of Union Members; Paid Vacations Provide Jobs for 500 More Workers.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Chicago, Ill.—Chicago's 14,000 organized street car men have just concluded negotiations with the Chicago Surface Lines as a result of which they have obtained the highest rate of wages ever paid on this property and a week's vacation with pay.

The Chicago Surface Lines employes are members of Division 241 of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Eight-Hour Day Established

The Agreement Committee of Division 241 obtained an offer through negotiation of 80 cents an hour for motormen and conductors on two man cars and 88 cents per hour for one man car and bus operators, as well as increases of 3 cents per hour for all other members of the Organization.

The eight-hour day has been reestablished with time and a half for all work beyond eight hours.

Another new feature of the agreement is the week's vacation with pay, beginning July 1, for all employes in service one year or more. It is estimated that the increase in wages will add some $2,000,000 per year to the incomes of the street car men. The institution of a vacation schedule means the employment of some 500 more workers on the system.

$11,000,000 in Benefits

Division 241, together with Division 308 whose members are employed on the elevated systems of Chicago, provide an outstanding example of the benefits made possible through organization. Over the years these two Divisions have built up beneficial features to the point where in 1936 the twenty thousand members of both

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LONGSHOREMEN WIN PAY RAISE IN BELLINGHAM

Bellingham, Wash. (AFLNS).—The International Longshoremen's Association, after considerable effort, has secured a new agreement with the Port Commission, at Bellingham, by which a general increase of $25 monthly was granted to permanent employes up to the top bracket, where $50 a month increase was secured. The port manager, now getting $4,250 annually, is said to be the highest paid man in the county.

Pressmen Land Higher Pay In Pact With Columbus Firm

Columbus, Ohio (AFLNS)—Local Union No. 62, International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, of Columbus, recently secured a three-year union contract with the Ohio Wax Paper Company, with many advantages. Wages were increased 14 cents an hour for pressmen, and hours reduced from 44 to 40 per week. Apprentices get an increase of 20 cents an hour and helpers not classified as apprentices 10 cents an hour more.

EDITORIALS

(From June 12 Issue of A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Supplement)

Shorter Work Week Is the Only Real Unemployment Remedy

The terrible havoc wrought on the workers by unemployment caused by employers who have the economic power to increase the length of the work week by their own dictatorial decrees was emphasized by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in his testimony before the joint hearing held by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor and the House of Representatives Committee on Labor on the Black-Connery Fair Labor Standards Bill sponsored by President Roosevelt with the object of establishing minimum wage rates and maximum hours for certain groups of workers now oppressed by long hours and less-than-living wages.

Under the National Industrial Recovery Act, the fair practice codes established the basic 40-hour week in most industries, some of which had been operating on work weeks as long as seventy and eighty hours.

With the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States holding the Recovery Act unconstitutional the codes were abolished. Many employers, with larger profits as their goal, took advantage of the Supreme Court's ruling to lengthen the work week far beyond the limit set up by the codes. In discussing this reactionary policy, Mr. Green said:

> "The story of industry since the invalidation of the National Industrial Recovery Act is one of departure from the labor standards therein provided, in the direction of lengthened hours of employment.
>
> "A nation-wide survey of such departures from June, 1935, through March, 1936, in 583 industries reveals that 4,073,901 employees were affected by lengthened hours to the extent of 35,247,473 added man hours beyond those specified in the codes.
>
> "Such added hours, if spread among the unemployed, would have permitted the reemployment by those industries alone for that period of 839,123 employees. It is probable that the departures from the National Industrial Recovery Act coded hours of employment alone have accounted for upward of two and one-half million unemployed since its invalidation."

This use by employers of their dictatorial power to lengthen the work week and thus deprive two and one-half millions of working men and women of the right to live by their labor was bad enough, but during a long period prior to the N. R. A. codes and after their abolition employers also slaughtered the right to work for untold numbers of toilers by the equally dictatorial wholesale introduction of labor-displacing machinery and speed-up methods. On this point Mr. Green said:

> "Add to this situation the consideration that at the same time technological improvements and expansion in the volume of output resulted in a 40 per cent increased productivity per worker per hour from 1929 to 1935 and you can readily see why employment has lagged behind production more and more and why industrial recovery alone cannot absorb the unemployed."

The remedy for this continual slaughter of the right to work is the positive and progressive reduction of the length of the work week. Mr. Green suggested that the Fair Labor Standards Act fix the basic work week at forty hours, with power vested in the Labor Standards Board which will administer the Act to gradually scale the length of the work week down to thirty hours—a standard already established by many employers through agreements negotiated with American Federation of Labor unions.

The incorporation of this amendment in the Act would be a long stride toward making the thirty-hour week, so necessary as a remedy for unemployment, a part of the labor policy of the Government of the United States.

(From June 12 Issue of A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Supplement)

Goldie's Argument Favoring Long Work Week Is Invalid

Alexander Goldie, Canadian employers' delegate to the International Labor Conference at Geneva, Switzerland, is reported as opposing the forty-hour week with the argument that "the workers must choose between increased income and increased leisure," adding:

> "I do not believe that the Canadian people as a whole want more leisure, but they want more things—better homes, more food, more clothes, more automobiles."

It is regrettable that Mr. Goldie should have undertaken to foist on the delegates to the Geneva conference the fallacious claim that under machine production shorter hours mean decreased output and consequently less of the good things of life.

The utter shallowness of this outworn theory was pointedly illustrated by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the 1936 convention of the Federation in an authentic account of hours and output in the shoe industry. In comparing the output, hours of labor and workers employed for the years since 1928, the Council said:

> "In the pre-depression peak year of 1929, 361,412,000 pairs of shoes were produced. In 1935, 383,761,000 pairs were produced, an increase of 22,349,000 pairs. On the other hand, the number of jobs in the industry had dropped from 205,600 in 1929 to about 197,600 in 1935. In other words, it took 8,000 fewer workers to produce 22,000,000 more pairs of shoes.
>
> "More than that, during this period all workers engaged in the production of shoes worked on the average 8.8 fewer hours per week. This curtailment in both hours and employment resulted in a 23.2 reduction in total man-hours required for production between 1929 and 1935. The productivity of each worker in one hour during this time was increased by 38 per cent."

Taking a longer period for comparison, the Executive Council pointed out that the "volume of production of shoes was 18 per cent greater in 1935 than in 1926," adding:

> "In fact, the record production of last year exceeded even the previous all-time high of 1929 by 6 per cent. At the same time, . . . in 1935, it took 22.7 per cent less man-hours of work than in 1926 to produce 18 per cent more shoes. Most marked of all was increase in the output per man per hour. In the ten-year period the man-hour productivity increased by 52.5 per cent."

With these accurate figures regarding the continuous increase of output per hour by workers in the shoe industry and the certainty that this increase is typical of increases in other industries, employers' representatives at the International Labor Conference and at other conferences which consider reduction of the length of the work week should cease bringing up the palpably inaccurate statement that shorter hours inevitably mean less of the good things of life for distribution among the people.

Union Label Week, Indorsed by Mayor Dore, Scores Big Success in Seattle

"If the Members of Organized Labor and Their Families Would Only Buy Merchandise Bearing the Union Label, the Objectives of Organized Labor Would Soon be Obtained," Executive of Washington's Largest City Declares; Receives Congratulations From A. F. of L. Union Label Trades Department(

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Seattle, Wash.—The action of Mayor John F. Dore in proclaiming the week of June 4 to 12 Union Label Week in Seattle was the outstanding feature which contributed to the success of organized labor's campaign to extend the market for union goods and services. The patriotic zeal of the Mayor for higher living standards for workingmen and women furnishes a fine example for mayors of other cities in the United States and Canada.

Following is the text of Mayor Dore's proclamation:

"If the members of Organized Labor and their families would only buy merchandise bearing the union label, the objectives of Organized Labor would soon be obtained.

"Therefore, it is with the greatest pleasure that I proclaim the week commencing June 4th, as Union Label Week.

"I never did understand how the families of union workers who are being paid union wages, could consider it consistent to trade in stores that are paying low wages, working their employes long hours and maintaining unsatisfactory working conditions. If every dollar of union wages boycotted such non-union shops, the fight for union labor would soon be won.

"The dollar of the union worker is the

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ORGANIZER FULLER REPORTS GOOD WORK IN OGDEN, UTAH

Ogden, Utah (AFLNS).—The constructive achievements of organized labor in Ogden are illustrated by the fact that R. H. Fuller, American Federation of Labor organizer here, has organized ten local unions and two Federal labor unions during the past few months. Considerable impetus to the work of organized labor was given by the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States upholding the constitutionality of the Wagner-Connery Labor Relations Act.

Social Legislation Stressed at Geneva

Sean Lemass, Irish Free State Official, Tells International Labor Conference That Government Action is Necessary to Reduce Unemployment and Mitigate Poverty.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Geneva, Switzerland.—Sean Lemass, Minister for Industry and Commerce of the Irish Free State, was Session of the International Labor Conference when it opened here June 3.

Mr. Lemass was nominated by Edward F. McGrady, Assistant Secretary of Labor of the United States and chief of the United States delegation to the Conference. Justin Godart, French Government delegate, Hans C. Oersted, Employers' Vice Chairman of the Governing Body of the I.L.O., and Corneille Mertens, Workers' Vice Chairman of the Governing Body of the I.L.O., supported the nomination.

Forty-Hour Week Considered

During the three weeks the conference is in progress delegates from more than fifty countries will consider adoption of forty-hour week conventions, or international agreements, for the textile and chemical industries and for the printing and allied trades.

The conference will also consider the planning of public works in relation to employment, safety provisions for workers in building construction and the raising from 14 to 15 years of the minimum age for employment in industrial and non-industrial employment.

In his inaugural address, Mr. Lemass stressed the universal change, in recent years, of the attitude of governments towards social policy.

Social Policy Gains First Place

"No longer is social policy regarded as a subsidiary to economics," he explained. "It now occupies a foremost place in the minds of statesmen and the programs of administrations.

"No longer are social aims whittled down to fit the requirements of economics but rather is economic policy modified to facilitate the attainment of the social objectives of governments.

"In all countries there is growing in the minds of men a deep conviction that destitution or poverty, arising from unemployment or any other cause, are not inevitable phenomena which rulers of States can only deplore, but the undesirable results of

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NAZI DEATH DECREES PROTESTED BY GREEN

President of American Federation of Labor in Cablegram to Hitler Asks Revocation of Sentences Imposed on Labor Men by German Dictators.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—A strong protest against the death sentences imposed by German courts on Adolf Rembte and Robert Stamm, former labor leaders, and the life sentence of Max Maddalena was cabled to Chancellor Adolf Hitler by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

"On behalf of workers of United States I protest against death sentences imposed on Adolph Rembte and Robert Stamm and life sentence of Max Maddalena," Mr. Green said in a message made public here.

"Workers of all countries feel that opportunity for free Labor Movement in any one country is concern of all. In addition to affection and fraternal ties that we feel for the free Organized Labor Movement of Germany we realize that the cause of democracy requires that no nation or group within a nation can safely seek advantage by limiting freedom of others.

"We urge that the well-being of Germany requires a Labor Movement free to function in the interests of German wage earners and that Germany will gain international good will by mitigating the sentences of those union representatives. On behalf of workers of United States and in the name of human freedom I urge quick and generous revocation of these sentences."

New York, N. Y.—A wireless from Berlin to the New York Times declared that the Ministry of Propaganda disclaimed any knowledge of a cablegram to Chancellor Hitler from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, protesting the death sentences imposed on Robert Stamm and Adolf Rembte.

"Repeated inquiries in official quarters," the wireless said, "have failed to produce any information whatsoever about the labor leaders' trials. Such trials are held in camera before the people's tribunal and in the event of a death sentence nothing is announced until the execution has been carried out."

Firemen and Oilers Gain Wage Increase in Detroit

Detroit, Mich. (AFLNS).—The Peter Pan Bakeries, Inc., of Detroit has signed an agreement with the Firemen and Oilers Local Union No. 32 increasing the wages of six employes from 50 cents to $1 an hour. By this action the company became a union shop in the production end, agreements having been signed hitherto with the Bakers Union and the Drivers union.

Green Calls On Central Labor Bodies In Illinois to Exclude C. I. O. Unions

Action is Taken by Direction of Executive Council of American Federation of Labor in Accordance With Provision of A. F. of L. Constitution; Progressive Miners of America Declared Eligible for Membership in Illinois Central Labor Unions and in State Federation of Labor.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, by direction of the A. F. of L. Executive Council, sent a communication "To the officers and members of central labor unions in Illinois" calling upon them to dissociate from membership in central bodies local unions chartered by national and international unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization.

The communication also declared that the Council had accepted the Progressive Miners of America as an affiliate of the A. F. of L., and that consequently local unions of the Progressive Miners in Illinois are eligible for membership in Illinois city central bodies and the State federation of labor,

The text of President Green's communication follows:

To the officers and members of Central Labor Unions in Illinois:

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

By direction of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor I am calling upon the officers and members of Central Trades Councils in Illinois to dissociate from membership in said central bodies local unions chartered by national and international unions affiliated with the C.I.O. This action of the Executive Council is based upon Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor which reads as follows:

> "No Central Labor Union, or any other central body of delegates shall admit to or retain in their councils delegates from any local organization that owes its allegiance to any other body, National or International, hostile to any affiliated organization, or that has been suspended or expelled by, or not connected with, a National or International organization of their trade herein affiliated, nor are delegates to be seated from locals of National or International organizations which are not affiliated to the American Federation of Labor, under penalty of having their charter revoked for violation of their charter, subject to appeal to the next Convention."

This section of the law provides that local organizations chartered by national and international unions which have been suspended by or which have withdrawn from affiliation with the American Federation of Labor are ineligible to membership in your Central Trades Council. Local unions chartered by the following named national and international unions are ineligible to membership in your Central Trades Council:

United Mine Workers of America.
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.
Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers of America.
International Union, Mine Mill and Smelter Workers.
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
United Textile Workers of America.
Federation of Flat Glass Workers.
Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.
International Union United Automobile Workers of America.
United Rubber Workers of America.

If local unions chartered by any of the above named international unions are now holding membership in your Central Body, I direct that they be suspended from membership immediately.

On the other hand, I am officially advising you that on May 28, 1937, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor accepted the Progressive Miners of America into affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. The Progressive Miners of America are, therefore, now in affiliation and in good standing with the American Federation of Labor. For that reason local unions of the Progressive Miners in Illinois are eligible to membership in city central bodies in Illinois and in the Illinois State Federation of Labor. I therefore direct that you accept applications from local unions of the Progressive Miners of Illinois for membership in your Central Body and that they be accepted into affiliation with your Central Body.

Fraternally yours,
WILLIAM GREEN,
President,
American Federation of Labor.

PAINTERS UNIONS LAND WAGE INCREASE PACTS

Watsonville, Memphis, Long Beach and Knoxville Agreements Provide Higher Living Standards for Dues Payers.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Union painters in Watsonville, California, are all smiles these days. The reason for the good cheer is the fact that Local No. 750 of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America negotiated a new agreement with Watsonville employers raising wages to $10.50 a day, which is a straight dollar a day increase over the rates in the old agreement. The pact continues the five-day week.

Officials of the Painters Union claim Watsonville painters are 100 per cent organized. No wonder the union officials were able to secure such a good contract.

Union painters in Memphis, Tennessee, following a 4-day strike, won an agreement with the Painters and Sign Painters Contractors' Association, which brought substantial wage boosts. Sign painters now get $1.25 an hour, or $10 for an 8-hour day, the former scale being $9. Sign painters' helpers were advanced from $5 to $6 a day. House painters in Memphis get $8 a day.

A new agreement calling for substantial wage increases, a forty-hour week and overtime rates of pay has been negotiated with the contracting painters of Long Beach, California, by Painters Local Union No. 256 of that city.

Painters and Decorators' Local Union No. 437, at Knoxville, Tenn., has succeeded in signing up two more important contracting concerns, which are now paying union wages and affording their workers union conditions.

PATTERN MAKERS GAIN HIGHER HOURLY RATES

Buick Motor Company in Flint and Forty Cleveland Shops Sign Up With Union.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Pattern Makers Association has negotiated an agreement with the Buick Motor Car Company in Flint, Michigan, for wage increases covering various classifications of pattern makers. The wages of 76 employes were raised from $1.20 to $1.25 per hour; sixteen men paid $1.10 and $1.15 per hour secured an increase to $1.30, and those receiving $1 and $1.05 per hour got an increase to $1.20.

Under a new contract negotiated by the Pattern Makers Union of Cleveland, Ohio, the union pattern makers in more than 50 job pattern shops gained a wage increase of 15 cents an hour. The scale fixed minimum wages at $1.25 per hour. The contract covered approximately 250 men.

PULP WOOD CUTTERS WIN STRIKE FOR HIGHER PAY

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Organized Pulp Wood Cutters in Skagit County, Washington, have won their 30 day strike for better wages and working conditions. The agreement which provides recognition of the union with a closed shop agreement and a check off system, secured a 75 per cent increase in wages to a flat minimum of $5 where men worked on a day wage. Increase in cord rates to $3.40 for spruce and hemlock and $3 for cotton wood was also obtained.

Potters Sign Higher Wage Pact With Akron Company

Akron, Ohio (AFLNS).—Officials of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters have negotiated an agreement with the Akron Porcelain Company which provides wage increases of 10 and 15 per cent for members of Local Union No. 160. All day workers received the 15 per cent boost while the piece workers were granted 10 per cent. Other terms of the agreement include the closed shop, checkoff, and a piece work rate for kiln-placing to be worked out by the officials of the company and the shop committee. Placing tunnel kiln will be kilnmen's work exclusively.

ORGANIZED WAREHOUSEMEN SECURE INCREASED WAGES

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Warehousemen's Union of the International Longshoremen's Association in San Francisco, California, has negotiated an agreement with the Spalding Sales Corporation of that city providing recognition of the union as the bargaining agency for the company's employes, minimum wage scales ranging from 62½ cents to 70 cents an hour, time and one-half for overtime, a 44-hour week, and seniority rules.

Warehouse and Inside Workers' Local No. 20316, a Federal A. F. of L. union, in Minneapolis, Minn., won an important victory after being on strike one week, when the Buzza Company was signed up. A flat increase of 33 1/3 per cent in wages brought the hourly rate to a minimum of 55 cents for unskilled labor of men, and no girl in the plant is to be paid less than 40 cents an hour.

Rights of Workers Under Social Security Act Stressed by Green

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job: (a) if the position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, lockout, or other labor dispute; (b) if the wages, hours or other conditions of the work offered are substantially less favorable to the individual than those prevailing for similar work in the locality; (c) if as a condition of being employed the individual would be required to join a company union or to resign from or refrain from joining any bona fide labor organization.

"With these guarantees, workers do not have to violate their union principles in order to get unemployment benefits—they do not have to 'scab,' undercut union standards and rates, or forego union membership. This interpretation is in line with the Wagner Labor Relations Act which guarantees the right to collective bargaining.

Criticizes Prevailing Wage Rate Provision

"Provision 'B' is weakened by the word 'substantially' which involves the procedure of determining prevailing rate. We shall try to have this eliminated from the Federal law. This right is essentially a reaffirmation of the familiar prevailing rate principle. In administration, as under the Bacon-Davis Law and P.W.A., the heart of the principle is the union rate. The administration of socal security has the benefit of the standards established under this principle and other social welfare legislation.

"The union rate is the only rate established by joint conference and agreement. Be on guard against any ruling that seeks to set up a prevailing rate in union work and a prevailing rate for non-union work. Non-union workers have been denied their rights under the Wagner Act which has become really effective since the Supreme Court decision.

Workers' Social Security Rights

"Every worker wants to know what his rights will be under the Social Security Act. His pay envelope will record the amount the employer has deducted from his wages as his payment into an old age benefit. This is matched by an equal payment by the employer. This amount paid by the employer also accrues to the benefit of the worker.

"Unemployment benefits present a more difficult problem. In all but nine States, only the employer makes contributions to the unemployment fund. It will, therefore, be necessary to establish procedures whereby the individual worker may know that his interests are being protected under the law.

Pooled Fund Approved

"The basic provision which assures maximum security for workers is the pooled fund. In the interests of economy for investors, individual reserves or modifications of the pooled fund are urged, such as merit rating, guaranteed work plans, and combination plans such as Indiana with five-sixths going to employer reserves and one-sixth to the pooled fund. A memorandum on pooled fund was sent you sometime ago. Enclosed is a reprint of an article which points out the fallacies of the merit rating provision."

"One of our first and major objectives," Mr. Green concluded, "must be to secure amendments establishing in every State law the pooled fund principle so as to provide benefits for the greatest number."

14,000 Chicago Street Railway Employes Negotiate Agreement for Increased Wages

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Divisions and their families received the sum of $1,019,530.16. In the last ten years almost $11,000,000 in sick, disability, death and unemployment benefits have been paid out. Both Divisions pay death, disability and old age benefits of $200.00 in addition to the international benefits of $600.00.

Life Insurance Provided

Through a contract with the management the employes of these properties have $1,000 life insurance policies with double indemnity clauses, as well as sick and disability insurance which pays them $20 a week for 26 weeks. Division 241 has a special relief fund to take care of disabled employes unable to return to work after the 26-week period. This is in effect an old age pension and has benefited the members to the extent of a million and a quarter dollars since it was inaugurated. During the depression not a single member of Division 241 was required to appeal to charity for assistance.

In the agreement which will be signed as a result of the acceptance by members of Division 241 of the company's offer there is provision for the establishment of a pension system to be inserted in the franchise ordinance now being considered.

The membership of Division 241 accepted the company's offer by referendum vote Monday, June 14. The vote was 9,459 for acceptance and 653 against.

Angelica Jacket Company Signs Closed Shop Pact With Garment Workers Union

By A. F. of L. News Service.

St. Louis, Mo.—A closed shop agreement has been negotiated by the United Garment Workeas of America with the Angelica Jacket Company of St. Louis, following indisputable evidence that the various crafts for which it manufactures service uniforms are largely unionized under the American Federation of Labor. The contract applies to all of the company's plants, employing about 400 workers.

The wage rates under the agreement provide for the continuance of the 40-hour week and minimum wage of $16 per week. Union officials said that girl operators will average from $16 to $30 on piece work, and cutters from $35 to $55 a week.

Although the agreement makes no change in existing hours and wage rates, it contains a clause that provides for wage increases in line with any future increases in the garment industry and a reduction in working hours if the industry does likewise.

TIMBER WORKERS UNION WINS INCREASED WAGES

Carpenters Brotherhood Local in Duluth Signs Up Two Companies for Minimum Rates and Improved Work Conditions.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Timber and Saw Mill Workers Local Union No. 2776 of Duluth, Minn., affiliated with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, has negotiated an agreement with the Mead Timber Company settling a short strike of the company's drive on the Stump and Pigeon Rivers. The agreement provides a minimum scale for the drive of 60 cents an hour, an eight hour day and time and one-half for overtime. One clause in the agreement provides for inspection of the books of the company by the Timber Workers Union so as to protect the men as far as seniority is concerned.

Local 2776 also reports the negotiation of an agreement stipulating higher wages, shorter hours and improved work conditions with the International Lumber Company of Duluth. The contract sets up a minimum wage of 60 cents an hour for an eight-hour day on the Little Fork Drive, with time and one-half for overtime. On the Loman Hoist the minimum wage will be 45 cents an hour for the general men who are not to be used on the boom or water work. Union officials claim that a few years ago, before the timber workers were effectively organized, the company paid $3 and board for a day's work ranging anywhere from 10 to 16 hours.

29 WAGE BOOST PACTS WON BY HOUSTON SIGN WRITERS

Houston, Texas (AFLNS).—Renewed contracts with 29 firms for wage increases have been negotiated by Sign Writers Local No. 550 of Houston, Texas. The increases are 25 cents an hour for journeymen and 15 cents for helpers. Under the new rates journeymen are paid $1.50 an hour and helpers 90 cents.

Tailors in Cedar Rapids Win Pact for 67½ Cents an Hour

Cedar Rapids, Iowa (AFLNS).—A new agreement carrying increased wages has been finalized by the Tailors Union of Cedar Rapids. The wage scale is 67½ cents an hour for a week of 45½ hours with time and one-half for overtime and no work on holidays.

Prior to the agreement the tailors had worked from 47 to 51 hours a week at wage rates varying from 29 to 60 cents an hour.

STREET RAILWAY AND BUS WORKERS WIN HIGHER PAY

Detroit and Tacoma Unions Advance Hourly Rates 5, 10, and 15 Cents in New Agreements.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Street car men, members of Division No. 758, Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway employes in Tacoma, Wash., have secured increases in wages of 7½ per cent for those in the higher brackets and a straight 5 cents an hour for those who are lower paid, bringing the basic minimum wage to 70 cents an hour for platform men, in a new agreement signed with the Tacoma Railway and Power Company.

An arbitration decision carrying substantial wage increases has been won by Division 26 of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes in its controversy with the Eastern Michigan Motor Bus Company of Detroit, Michigan. The three-man arbitration board granted a five-cent increase in back pay and substantial advances in future wage rates. The wage increases are: Five cents per hour from December 1, 1936, to February 28, 1937, taking care of the back pay. From March 1 to June 30, the increase will be 10 cents an hour, and from July 1 to November 30, 15 cents an hour.

ASBESTOS WORKERS WIN WAGE BOOSTS

Hourly Rates Increased by Agreements Negotiated in Memphis, Cleveland and Columbus.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Local Union No. 44, International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers, has secured contracts with the Clark Asbestos Company, of Cleveland, Ohio, and the Johns-Mansville and Earl Bright concerns in Columbus, Ohio. The new contracts establish a 40-hour work week and increase the wage rate to $1.30 an hour.

Memphis, Tennessee, Asbestos Workers are now working under a new wage scale which boosted wages 12½ cents an hour, from $1 to $1.12½.

Detroit Window Cleaners Win Closed Shop Contract

Detroit, Mich. (AFLNS). — Window Cleaners Local No. 139, of Detroit, has negotiated a closed shop agreement carrying substantial wage increases with the Mutual Window Cleaning Company. Union officials report that the membership is increasing every week.

W. P. CONNERY DIES OF FOOD POISONING

Chairman of House Labor Committee and Joint Author With Senator Wagner of Labor Relations Act, Passes Away Suddenly in Washington.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Representative William P. Connery, Jr., of Lynn, Mass., chairman of the House of Representatives Labor Committee, died in the Homeopathic Hospital here June 15 after a short illness caused by food poisoning. He was 48 years old.

Mr. Connery was elected to the 68th Congress, which convened on December 3, 1923, and was reelected to every Congress since then. He became chairman of the House Labor Committee in 1931, and took an active part in placing much labor legislation on the statute books from that date. Joint author with Senator Wagner of the National Labor Relations Act, which gave legal status to labor's right to organize, he piloted that measure safely through the House of Representatives.

Mr. Connery championed the Thirty-Hour-Week Bill for several sessions and up to his death clung to the basic belief that shorter hours of labor was the only effective remedy for unemployment.

He was also the champion of the present Black-Connery Fair Labor Standards Act, sponsored by President Roosevelt, and took an active part in the hearings on that measure held jointly by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor and the House Committee on Labor.

The last piece of legislation he piloted through the House of Representatives was the bill extending for two years the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Mr. Connery was born in Lynn, Mass., on August 24, 1888. He received his school and college education in Massachusetts and Montreal, Canada. He entered the theatrical profession as an actor and afterward became manager. While playing with one of George M. Cohan's summer shows in Massachusetts he met his wife, the former Marie Manseau. They formed the vaudeville team known for two years as "Connery and Legault."

He enlisted as a private in Company A, One Hundred and First Regiment United States Infantry in August, 1917, and served nineteen months in France, taking part in all major operations, engagements and battles of the Twenty-sixth Division of that Regiment. He was promoted from private to regimental color sergeant for meritorious service September 25, 1918, and honorably discharged April 28, 1919.

The funeral services were held in Lynn, Mass.

Surviving Mr. Connery are his widow and one daughter, Marie Terese Connery.

RETAIL CLERKS FINALIZE HIGHER WAGE PACTS

Agreements in Detroit Include Five Stetson Shirt Shops and United Shirt Distributors With Stores in Four Cities.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

A wage increase agreement covering the employes of the United Shirt Distributors stores in Detroit, Jackson, Flint and Pontiac has been negotiated by Detroit Retail Clerks Union, Local 1050. The union won a $5 blanket raise for all salesmen and $8 or $10 raises for the managers. Under the new scale the wage rates for different classifications are $22.50, $27.50 and $35 for 48 hours. Under the old scale the clerks worked 56 to 60 hours weekly. Other points in the contract give the employes seniority rights, union protection on their jobs and no discrimination for union affiliation.

An agreement settling a strike, carrying substantial wage increases and shorter hours has been negotiated by the Detroit Retail Clerks Union with the Stetson Shirt Shops of that city. The firm operates five stores.

Retail Clerks' Protective Union, No. 11179, at Richmond, California, has secured a contract with the National Dollar Stores, providing shorter hours, better pay and improved working conditions, altogether regarded as the best contract ever secured by labor with this firm.

INCREASED WAGES GAINED BY OPERATING ENGINEERS

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Steam and Operating Engineers Local Union No. 7 of Springfield, Illinois, handed its members a good bit of extra pocket money in negotiating contracts with the Reisch Brewing Company and the Springfield Brewing Company of that city, granting a 12 per cent increase in wages with full union recognition.

A new agreement providing a 5 per cent increase in wages and requiring the employment of union members exclusively has been negotiated by Local No. 925 of the International Union of Operating Engineers of Tampa, Florida, with the Southern Brewery and the Tampa Florida Brewery of that city.

More Contracts Negotiated By Indianapolis Musicians

Indianapolis, Ind. (AFLNS).—The Indianapolis Musicians Union is making every effort to see that "night spots" and resorts hire union musicians, and with marked success. The Red Gables night club and the Westlake Terrace summer resort are among those recently signed up, along with the Seville Tavern and others.

San Francisco Nursery Union Wins Eight Pay Boost Pacts

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLNS)—Nursery Workers Union No. 20462 of San Francisco, has negotiated an agreement with eight large wholesale flower-growing firms here providing a scale of wages ranging from $4.25 a day for general labor to $5 a day for expert growers. The contract also grants preferential employment to union members.

Union Label Week, Indorsed by Mayor Dore, Scores Big Success in Seattle

(Continued from Page 1)

most effective weapon that he has. Too often he has failed to recognize the fact and consequently has failed to efficiently use this great weapon.

"The display of the union card and the use of the union label distinguishes the place of business where the workers are given a chance to maintain the American standard of labor. The employer who is maintaining these American conditions deserves the support of the union workers. He, of course, is carrying a load the less scrupulous does not carry, and it is only fair that those in whose behalf he is struggling should regard him with their patronage.

"As a supporter of union labor, nothing gives me greater pleasure than to know that at last Organized Labor in Seattle is going to make an aggressive drive to educate its members and their families to patronize only union establishments and only to buy union-made goods. I know that the Seattle Labor Council is going to be successful in this great endeavor. I certainly hope that this week will be but the beginning, and that throughout all the weeks of the year and through the years to come the Seattle Union Card and Label League will continue to carry on this great work.

"This city, this State and this Nation, cannot prosper unless the worker has wages that enable him to purchase what is produced. He must not only have time to buy but he must have time to use and enjoy the things he buys.

"Therefore, I proclaim the week of June 4th to 13th, Seattle Union Card and Label Week."

Praised by Union Label Trades Department

The following communication praising his action was received by Mayor Dore from I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C.:

"The Union Label Trades Department desires to express its deep appreciation for your proclamation for a Union Label Week, June 4 to 12. Organized Labor of Seattle is to be congratulated upon having a mayor with such a foresighted and progressive spirit. The American Federation of Labor appreciates your intelligent cooperation with the members of Labor Unions and the Union Card and Label League in your city."

PLUMBERS UNIONS JOIN HIGHER PAY BATTALIONS

Fatter Pay Envelopes Result From Agreements in Evansville, Memphis, Los Angeles, Jackson and Santa Monica.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

An agreement providing substantial wage increases has been negotiated by Plumbers and Steam Fitters Local Union No. 136 of Evansville, Indiana, with the Master Plumbers and Steam Fitters of that city. The contract calls for a scale of $1.25 an hour for an eight-hour day and five-day week, with time and one-half for overtime. There is also a section defining apprentices, setting forth the conditions under which they shall work at learning the trade, the wages they shall receive and the period of apprenticeship.

An agreement with contractors under which wages will be boosted from $1.25 to $1.37½ cents an hour is reported by Plumbers Local Union No. 17, of Memphis, Tennessee. Back in 1931 the union rate for plumbers was $1.50, but the union accepted a cut of 25 cents an hour because of the depression. The new agreement restores in part the old rate with the prospect of the $1.50 per hour rate being secured in the next agreement.

Plumbers Union No. 78 of Los Angeles, California, has negotiated a new contract with plumbing contractors which fixes a wage rate of $9 per day.

Plumbers' Local Union No. 631, at Jackson, Mich., secured a new contract through collective bargaining, in which a substantial increase in wages was won for these workers. The contract went into effect May 15.

A wage rate of $10 per day has been won by Plumbers Local Union No. 545, of Santa Monica, Calif., from plumbing contractors in that city. The higher pay scale followed an organization campaign started by the Plumbers Union the first of the year, which has greatly increased its strength and consequent bargaining power.

STOCKTON BUILDING TRADES FINALIZE PAY BOOST PACTS

Brick and Plaster Workers Include 30-Hour Week in Their Agreement.

Stockton, Calif. (AFLNS). — The Building Trades Council and the Builders Exchange of Stockton have signed agreements increasing the wages of a number of building trades craftsmen.

Under the new schedule the wages of sheet metal workers are $1.25 an hour; an increase of 6¼ cents; mixer operators, $1.12½ per hour, an increase of 12½ cents; plumbers and steamfitters, $1.25 an hour, an increase of 6¼ cents; roofers, $1.12½, an increase of 12½ cents; roofer foremen, $1.25, an increase of 12½ cents; roofer kettlemen, $1.12½, an increase of 50 cents to the level of journeymen roofers.

Brick and plaster workers contracted for a 30-hour week instead of the 40-hour week prevailing in other crafts, with the provision that they would work on a 40-hour basis whenever the abundance of work required it.

LAUNDRY UNIONS RECORD INCREASED WAGE RATES

Seniority Rights, Rest Periods and Hours Also Figure in Agreements.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Laundry and Dry Cleaners' Union at Montgomery, W. Va., won a dispute, after five weeks, in which they secured an increase in wages of five per cent, re-employment without discrimination of those who went on strike, equalization of work, fifteen-minute rest periods mornings and afternoons, a limited amount of laundry and dry cleaning free, and the 48-hour work week.

The increase in wages goes into effect July 1. The contract will remain effective for one year.

Officials of the Laundry Workers Union at Vallejo, California, negotiated a contract raising the wage of the union members employed by one concern from 41 cents to 80 cents an hour.

Higher wages and seniority rights feature a new agreement negotiated by Laundry Workers Local No. 114 of Crockett, California, with the Crockett Electric Laundry.

Minneapolis Upholsterers Win Higher Hourly Rates

Minneapolis, Minn. (AFLNS).—Wage increases ranging from 5 to 15 cents an hour and reduced hours feature an agreement negotiated by Upholsterers Local Union No. 61, of Minneapolis, with Margoine, Inc., manufacturers of commercial furniture.

WORLD COAL PARLEY MEETS NEXT APRIL

Agenda of Conference Planned By International Labor Office Includes Hours, Wages, Work Conditions and Other Economic and Social Matters Connected With Coal Mining and Marketing.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Geneva, Switzerland. — A conference of coal-producing nations, along the lines of the International Textile Conference held last April in Washington, will be convoked by the International Labor Organization late in April, 1938, in accordance with a decision taken by the governing body of the I. L. O. at its last regular meeting held here, June 1 and 2.

The coal conference, the exact date and place of which probably will be announced at the next meeting of the governing body in October, will discuss economic and social aspects of the industry, including hours of work, wages and earnings, employment and unemployment, the present position of the coal market and prices, trade restrictions and international agreements.

Woll and Hayday Stress Hours

Matthew Woll, United States labor representative on the governing body, and Arthur Hayday, British labor representative, urged that special emphasis be placed by the conference on hours of work in the coal mining industry. Mr. Woll expressed the fear that if other factors were made of prime importance, labor might suffer as a result.

Cyril G. Dennys, British government representative, declared that his government had been impressed by the admitted success of the textile conference in Washington, and felt that the same method of procedure in the case of coal probably would lead to good results.

Butler is Optimistic

Director Harold B. Butler of the I. L. O., said he felt sure the conference would offer "a very real possibility of throwing light on the fundamental difficulties and problems of the coal industry."

"I think we found at Washington," he added, "that one got a much clearer picture by bringing out the various economic and other factors which are also involved, and I am sure that will be at least true, and perhaps even more true, in the case of the coal industry, which is, like the textile industry, very highly competitive in character."

Nearly all the large coal-producing countries are expected to be represented at the conference. Each country will be asked to send delegations consisting of workers', employers' and government representatives.

BAKERY DRIVERS GAIN PAY BOOSTS

Akron and Washington Unions Increase Both Wage Rates and Commissions.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Bakers Salesmen (drivers) No. 33, at Washington, D. C., with considerably over 500 members, has secured a new agreement with the Employing Bakers' Association of Washington and fifteen independent bakeries, following a similar settlement with Bakers' Union No. 118. The drivers got an increase of $2 in the minimum weekly guarantee, bringing it up to $40, with adjustments in commissions and, for the first time, annual vacations of one week with pay.

Bakery Drivers Local Union No. 425 of Akron, Ohio, has ratified an agreement with bakery owners increasing the drivers basic wage from $15 a week to $20 a week, plus six per cent commission. Employers gave the assurance that the price of bread will not be advanced.

MINNEAPOLIS PLASTERERS GAIN HIGHER PAY RATES

Lathers and Plasterers Tenders Included in Agreement Which Stipulates the 30-Hour Week.

Minneapolis, Minn. (AFLNS).—Plasterers, Lathers and Plasterers' Tenders' local unions in Minneapolis won significant victories when they recently signed up contractors here. The new agreement provides for the 6-hour day and 5-day week—in short, the present goal of many unions, the 30-hour work week.

The Plasterers and Lathers scale was increased from $1.35 to $1.50 an hour, and Plasterers' Tenders from $1 to $1.15 an hour. All hiring is to be done through the union office.

JOBLESS CENSUS URGED BY CONGRESSMAN FRIES

Bills Introduced by Illinois Representative Provide for Securing Reliable Figures Relative to Employment and Employables.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Two bills introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Frank W. Fries of Illinois provide for employment and unemployment censuses designed to secure prompt and continuing accurate figures on both the number of persons employed and the number of employables.

The first bill provides that the decennial census shall be taken next spring instead of in 1940, with suitable schedules for unemployment information covering all phases of industry and commerce. The second bill calls for a like census on all odd numbered years so that the facts on unemployment conditions may be available at all times.

In a statement explaining the necessity for the proposed censuses, Representative Fries said:

Machinery Destroys Jobs

"We all realize machines have displaced thousands of human beings. Industry is operating with a minimum of employes and because of the advance of science and invention a large percentage of the displaced workers will be kept in idleness. Unless something is done of a permanent nature to aid the three distinct factors governing our country—business, agriculture and labor—it will be impossible to correct the evils now existing. It is high time we know how many persons are eligible for employment and what they are qualified to do."

Emphasizing the varying estimates of the unemployed made public by government bureaus and private organizations, Representative Fries continued:

Unemployed Must Be Given Work

"If my bills are passed and their provisions carried out they will give us the necessary knowledge as to the number of men and women eligible for employment, how many are unemployed and what they are qualified to do, and the number employed in each of the hundreds of divisions of industry, as well as facts on who has been receiving relief and for how long. They will present statistics to guide Congress in legislation dealing with appropriations to care for the needy and a basis for drafting workable economic and industrial laws.

"Without knowledge of those eligible for employment the Congress cannot solve our problems with any degree of success. It is impossible to tax ourselves out of the economic jungle. We must find some way to put people back to work."

DRIVERS UNIONS LAND MANY WAGE INCREASES

Fatter Pay Envelope Agreements Finalized in Detroit, Tacoma, Denver and Seattle.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The following agreements for wage increases and improved work conditions have recently been negotiated by various local Drivers Unions affiliated with the Teamsters and Chauffeurs International Brotherhood:

A union agreement with the Banner Laundering Company plant of Detroit, Mich., negotiated by the Laundry Drivers Local Union, brought increased wages for 50 drivers and about four hundred men and women inside workers. The settlement was reached following a strike. The drivers won a closed shop agreement. The inside workers won a preferential shop agreement. A general raise of five cents an hour was secured for the inside workers with a work week of nine hours for five days, together with seniority rights and freedom from discrimination. Wages for drivers were fixed at $15 per week, 15 per cent commission on the first $100 of business and 15 per cent on each $100 thereafter. A $35 minimum was established. A one-week vacation with pay and pay for six specified holidays were also stipulated.

Milk Drivers' Local Union No. 537, at Denver, Colorado, won an agreement recently with the Producers' Pure Milk Company, following a year of more or less heated controversy. Wage increases ranged from 10 to 30 per cent. Hours were reduced considerably to 52 hours a week for drivers and 48 hours per week for inside employes.

Retail grocery drivers throughout Seattle, Wash., are now generally working under union conditions for the first time. This result was achieved by the signing of an agreement between officials of Local 353 of the Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Helpers Union and the Seattle Grocers Association. The pact affects approximately three hundred men, all of whom will receive wage increases averaging around 30 per cent, and a reduction of their hours of work by one or more hours per day. The pact also provides for the usual holidays.

Newspaper Drivers and Handlers Local Union, No. 372, of Detroit, Mich., has negotiated a closed shop agreement with the Detroit News Company, a subsidiary of the American News Company. The agreement runs for one year and sets up a minimum wage scale of $37.50 a week for drivers.

The Ice Wagon Drivers Union of Seattle, Wash., has negotiated a new agreement covering helpers employed in the cold storage and ice manufacturing plants of that city carrying a $6 per day minimum wage for steady men and 90 cents per hour minimum for extra men.

The Fuel, Wood, Coal and Oil Drivers Union of Tacoma, Wash., reports the negotiation of an agreement providing a 50-cent daily wage increase. The new scale calls for a minimum wage of $6.25 per day.

Milk Drivers and Dairy Employes Local Union No. 155, of Detroit, Mich., secured an agreement from the Detroit and Ebling Creameries of that city, calling for a 15 per cent wage increase and a reduction of hours to 48 per week. The contract, covering 200 employes, sets up the preferential shop.

Social Legislation Stressed at Geneva

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defects in economic organization capable of being remedied by sound national planning supported by international economic co-operation.

Restoration of Jobs and Profits

"The success of a government in reducing unemployment, in protecting the standard of living of its people and in restoring the profits of farmers and manufacturers is now becoming the standard test by which the effectiveness of an administration is judged.

"That change in outlook has created a new interest in and given a fresh importance to the work of the International Labor Organization.

"Another factor producing a similar result is the welcome recovery in economic conditions which was recorded during the past twelve months. For six years since 1929 the depression which beset the world had its inevitable reaction on the work of the Organization.

"During periods of economic difficulty, in all countries, the development of social legislation and the improvement of the conditions of labor are retarded although it is during such periods that everybody becomes most deeply impressed with the need for them. The measure of recovery which has taken place, however uncertain its beginnings and however doubtful its duration, is the more welcome because it increases the possibility of a more extensive and ambitious program of social improvement being formulated here and adopted by States."

HUGH L. KERWIN DIES IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

Director of U. S. Conciliation Service Succumbs to Heart Attack at the Age of 63; Was Connected With Labor Department Since Its Establishment in 1913.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS.)—Hugh Leo Kerwin, director of the Conciliation Service of the U. S. Department of Labor, died at his home here on June 10 of a heart attack after a brief illness. His age was 64.

Mr. Kerwin came to Washington in 1911 as secretary to William B. Wilson, then chairman of the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives. When Mr. Wilson became secretary of the new Department of Labor under President Woodrow Wilson in 1913, Mr. Kerwin continued as his secretary. From 1917 to 1918 he was assistant to the Secretary of Labor.

Mr. Kerwin was appointed director of the Conciliation Service in 1917 and continued in that capacity until his death. A year ago he reported that the Service had intervened in about 16,000 labor disputes affecting 16,000,000 workers.

To every labor dispute of importance the Labor Department assigned a conciliator as an official observer, who reported daily to Mr. Kerwin here. The Conciliation Service had as many as forty conciliators, who acted as mediators in labor disputes when their aid was requested by either side. The conciliators did not have authority to compel arbitration, and after Congress passed the National Labor Relations Act they did not intervene in labor disputes covered by that law.

Mr. Kerwin gave his personal attention to the big coal strikes and the Passaic textile strike of 1926, the New Orleans street car strike of 1929, the New York tugboat strike of 1934, and other important controversies between labor and employers.

Mr. Kerwin was born in Blossburg, Pa., and secured his high school and business education in that town. He served as auditor of Tioga County from 1902 to 1906. He was a member of the Fuel Production Committee of the Council of National Defense in 1917 and director of the Federal Labor Adjustment Service, a war emergency bureau which included the Conciliation Service, in 1918 and 1919.

The funeral services in St. Joseph's Catholic Church here were attended by a large number of officials of the Labor Department and other government representatives and officers of the American Federation of Labor and of the national and international unions whose headquarters are in Washington. Burial was in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Surviving Mr. Kerwin are his widow, Mrs. Angie Dickinson Kerwin; two sons, Hugh A. and Frank W. Kerwin, and a daughter, Mrs. Merwin H. Browne, all of Washington, D. C.

RADIO WORKERS WIN PAY RAISE IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLNS).—A blanket increase of 20 cents an hour in wages, recognition of the union as the collective bargaining agency, the 40-hour week with time and one-half for overtime and holidays are features of an agreement negotiated by Radio Local B-202 of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers with the Remler Company, Ltd., of San Francisco.

The contract also provides that all disputes shall be settled by arbitration and that no lockout or strike shall be ordered pending the settlement of a disagreement. Union officials say the Remler company is the only manufacturer of union-made radios west of Chicago.

Cleveland Pulp and Paper Mill Union Wins Pay Boost

Cleveland, Ohio (AFLNS). — According to an agreement reached between the Cleveland Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers Union and the Union Paper and Twine Company, employes earning more than $100 a month will receive 10 per cent wage increases and those earning less than $100 will receive 12 per cent increases. The agreement also contains provisions for vacations graded according to length of service with the company.

Federal Housing Legislation Delay Is Condemned By Green

(Continued from Page 1)

pressed himself as favoring the purpose of the Wagner-Steagall Bill. At practically every public utterance since his inauguration he has told the people of America of the urgent need to provide good housing for that third of our population which is ill-housed now. He has stressed in his statements the need to remedy this situation without delay.

Morgenthau's "Capital Grant" Plan Opposed

"What then is the obstacle in the path of the Bill's enactment? Apparently the main obstacle can be traced to the objections of the Secretary of the Treasury to some of the financial provisions of the Bill. In its present form the Wagner-Steagall Bill provides for loans at the going Federal rate of interest, to local housing authorities, to help them finance their projects. In addition it provides for contractual annual contributions toward the rentals of housing projects, to bring them within reach of low-income families.

"Public and expert opinion is in unanimous agreement that this is the most practical way to achieve low-rent housing with governmental aid.

"Mr. Morgenthau, however, would like to substitute capital grants—that is, outright gifts to cover part of the original cost—in place of annual contributions to bring rents down.

Defends Annual Grants

"It is my opinion, and that of all the labor representatives who have been working closely with the problem of national housing policy, that annual grants are to be preferred to capital grants as a form of housing subsidy.

"Capital grants have been tried, thoroughly discredited and finally rejected in favor of annual grants, in housing experience abroad. They have a tendency to raise initial costs instead of bringing rents down. They do not guarantee enough continuing control by the U. S. Housing Authority, to make sure that the housing projects **remain** low-rental. And they make this year's taxpayers unjustly responsible for the entire cost of benefits which will be spread over a generation and more.

"I do not propose to enter here into a lengthy technical discussion on the merits or demerits of this and other proposals made by the Treasury Department, but I do feel that the vast amount of mature thought and representative experience which is behind each and every paragraph in the Wagner-Steagall Bill, should not be underestimated or ignored.

[illegible]sions of Bill Are Sound

"I do not claim that there exists a perfect solution of this difficult and complex question of low-rent housing, but I do claim, together with every responsible and social-minded housing expert in the country, that the U. S. Housing Bill of 1937 is far and away the most satisfactory formula yet devised.

"I also claim that any attempt to alter fundamentally at this late date the entire framework of a housing program which has in its persent form the support of the whole country cannot be taken as an act of good faith.

"The provisions of the Bill are not the result of half-baked thinking. They are more than a legislative experiment. The form of the Bill has grown, been revised, corrected, battled over—and is now heartily endorsed—by the individual and collective energy, interest and experience of hundreds of responsible individuals and representative agencies all over the country who speak for millions of men and women of America.

"The Bill is the result of a particularly successful operation of the democratic process and it must not be nullified by arbitrary, unrepresentative action which rests upon obscure motives.

Housing Recognized as Public Function

"Twenty-nine states, representing seventy per cent of our population, have already enacted special legislation recognizing housing as a public purpose and setting up permanent state housing agencies. More than fifty cities have established permanent public housing authorities. The recognized need is so great that all this local action has been taken before any Federal housing program or permanent Federal agency has been set up. Yet no local housing authority can even begin to function until there is a Federal agency such as the United States Housing Authority established under the Wagner-Steagall Bill ready to cooperate in making low-rent housing a reality.

"In my whole legislative experience I cannot recall a single piece of social or economic legislation on whose detailed provisions there was such unanimous agreement. This unanimity represents a remarkable contrast to the situation which preceded the enactment of our basic Social Security legislation two years ago when even those most in favor of the principles could not agree on the legislative form.

Indorsed by Local Housing Authorities

"The local housing authorities are unanimous in indorsing the Wagner-Steagall Bill not merely in principle but in its detailed administrative and financial provisions. **They know they can work with it.** City councils and mayors, state legislatures and governors, have officially endorsed this Bill. Welfare and religious organizations, national and local, endorsed the Bill wholeheartedly—not by any perfunctory action but after long technical consideration by special committees and experts.

"The American Institute of Architects, which seldom takes any sort of political action, specifically endorsed the Wagner-Steagall Bill at their convention two weeks ago.

Solidly Backed by Organized Labor

"The solid strength of organized labor is behind this Bill.

"Labor has worked on this measure from its earliest stages more than two years ago. Its support reflects a basic and vital need for low-rent housing on the part of the workers everywhere.

"Labor knows that the initiation of a housing program will bring more jobs and more stable employment for the building trades workers. It will help relieve unemployment in all basic industries on which the construction of houses depends for raw materials and equipment. It will relieve the housing shortage which is already critical, and above all it will make new and better housing available to wage earners and their families at rents which they can afford.

"Labor knows that ordinary private enterprise cannot make decent housing available for those whose incomes are low. Labor knows that the only way open to better housing for workers is to combine Federal and local action, permanent agencies and a sound, practicable, long-term program of financial aid and control.

"Labor is satisfied that all these conditions are met in the Wagner-Steagall Bill in its present form and labor stands united with every other organization representative of the public interest on one program and in one demand: The enactment of the Wagner-Steagall Bill AS IS."

American Federation of Labor Unions Win Reynolds Metals Company Pact

(Continued from Page 1)

International Unions, represents the last word in a working agreement between unions and employers in the aluminum industry.

A straight seniority rule is included in the agreement which bases seniority entirely upon length of service with the Company. Employes in the production departments are to be advanced to higher paid positions through this seniority rule and in the reduction and restoration of working forces seniority by service is to determine the employes affected.

An 8-hour day and 40-hour week is established by the agreement, with overtime paid at the rate of from time and a half to triple time, according to the trade rules of the union affected. The agreement also contains practically every provision usually found in closed shop agreements except an arbitration provision and an anti-strike clause which is not included in this agreement, due to the desire of the company not to adopt the arbitration provision at this time.

Officials Who Signed Agreement

The agreement was signed for the Reynolds Metals Company by William G. Golden and Archie P. Cochran, Vice-Presidents. Those signing for the International Association of Machinists were W. F. Robinson, Lodge No. 10, Richmond, Virginia; Alfred Peabody, Lodge No. 295, New York City; John D. Lengel and Adam Jungman, Lodge No. 340, Newark, New Jersey, and Robert Weinhardt, Lodge No. 681, Louisville, Kentucky.

Frank J. Shanley, Vice-President of the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, signed for Local Unions No. 55, No. 56, No. 145 and No. 320 of that organization.

For the Printing Trades represented, Harry Wendrick, New Jersey State Representative, signed for Local Union No. 31 of Newark, International Printing Pressmen's Union, while John E. Desmond signed for Local No. 385 of Louisville, Kentucky, of the same organization.

Fred H. Zohn signed for Local Unions No. 10, Louisville, Kentucky, and No. 103 of Newark, New Jersey, of the International Typographical Union.

The four unions of Aluminum and Tin Foil Workers were represented by the following committee, who signed for their various Unions: Thomas R. Jarrell and Charles Gibson of Local No. 19388 of Louisville, Kentucky; Arthur R. Cook, William J. Boest and James Carberry, Local No. 20168, Glendale, Long Island, New York; William C. Sheehan, Local No. 20440, Richmond, Virginia, and Chas. Mann and Hugh Boyle, Local No. 20533, Harrison, New Jersey.

The American Federation of Labor was represented during the conferences by David Williams, president of the International Council of Aluminum Workers' Unions, and William Collins, New York City representative. Both of these representatives signed the agreement for the American Federation of Labor.

CALIFORNIA CLERKS GAIN MEMBERS AND PAY BOOSTS

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Retail Clerks in San Diego, California, signed up 136 new members in three weeks, with the organization drive still going strong.

In Los Angeles, California, where an organization drive has also been under way, the Retail Clerks have succeeded in establishing minimum wages for several divisions, including: pharmacists, $30 per week (they used to get $70 a month); shoe clerks, $30 a week, with the 48-hour week (before organizing they got about $18 a week for 60 hours); clothing clerks, $40 and haberdashery clerks, $30. These, of course, are merely minimum rates.

San Francisco Auto Mechanics Sign Contracts With 6 Firms

San Francisco, Cal. (AFLNS).—Attempts of the United Automobile Workers, C. I. O. affiliate, to "horn in" on A. F. of L. locals in six parts plants here availed nothing it is reported.

Members of Auto Mechanics' Union No. 1305 and of Auto Parts Union No. 801, both associated with the A. F. of L., have agreements with the six firms; but, notwithstanding this fact, the C. I. O. body placed pickets about the plants, which were ignored.

Higher Wage Agreements Won By Battle Creek Gas Workers

Battle Creek, Mich. (AFLNS).—The Battle Creek Gas Workers and Gas Fitters recently negotiated contracts here calling for wage increases. The minimum pay for gas workers will be 50 cents per hour for the first 90 days; after that, 60 cents, 70 cents, and 77½ cents. This was an increase of 10 cents per hour. The contracts also called for the closed shop, the 48-hour week, the eight-hour day, time and one-half for overtime and one week's vacation with pay. J. L. Sage, A. F. of L. organizer here, assisted the unions in finalizing the contract.

Hutchinson Sheet Metal Men And Linemen Organize Unions

Hutchinson, Kan. (AFLNS).—Two new A. F. of L. local unions have been formed here, while existing locals report continuing gains.

Linemen of the Kansas Power and Light Company organized a "vertical" union which includes linemen, gas workers and truckmen, and applied for a charter from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Hutchinson tinsmiths have organized a strong local and applied for a charter from the Sheet Metal Workers International Association.

EDITORIALS

Pensions For Railroad Workers

A long struggle for old age security for the employes of the American railroads has been won by the action of the United States Senate in passing the bill, already adopted by the House of Representatives, providing retirement pensions for rail workers, estimated to number approximately 1,200,000.

The first retirement bill for railroad employes, passed by Congress in 1934, was challenged by the railroad executives and held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States. Congress then passed two substitute measures designed to meet the objections raised by the Supreme Court. One of them was a Retirement Act and the other a Tax Act to finance the Retirement Act. These measures were also challenged by the railroad executives because of their alleged unconstitutionality.

Justice Jennings Bailey of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia handed down an opinion which declared the Tax Act invalid but did not affect the validity of the Retirement Act. Under these measures the railroad workers had already contributed about $1,000,000 toward their retirement pensions. By order of the court an additional $99,000,000 collected from the railroads in taxes was impounded pending final adjudication of the cases by the Supreme Court.

In the meantime, representatives of the railroad executives and the railroad labor unions met in conferences and finally agreed upon a compromise retirement bill, satisfactory to the Government, the principles of which are included in the Act just passed by Congress. The railroad executives have agreed not to challenge the measure further in the courts.

Under the Retirement Act, railroad workers will be eligible for pensions upward to $120 a month after they reach the age of sixty-five years. Provision is made for pensioning disabled persons after they have completed thirty years of service. The pensions will be based on the monthly wages paid employes. Workers with twenty years of service will receive minimum benefits of $20 a month.

If an employe desires to retire at sixty, his pension will be reduced by one-fifteenth for every year he is below sixty-five.

The measure also provides death and disability benefits.

The retirement system will be financed solely by the railroad companies and the railroad employes, but will be administered by the Federal Government.

Officials of the U. S. Treasury estimate that $58,280,000 in retirement benefits will be paid to railroad employes during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1937. The Treasury experts also predict that by 1975 the annual amount paid out in benefits will reach $231,390,000.

Under the terms of the new Act, the $1,000,000 contributed by the employes and the $99,000,000 collected in taxes from the railroads under the former measure will be returned to those who contributed it.

The American Federation of Labor has worked unitedly with the railroad labor unions for the enactment of an adequate retirement system for railroad employes from the beginning of the movement to provide these workers with a measure of social security in their old age. The Federation congratulates the railroad unions, the railroad executives, the officials of the U. S. Treasury, and the Congress of the United States in having reached an agreement on such an important measure. Its enactment into statute law is a credit to all concerned.

International 40-Hour Week For Textile Industry Steps Forward

The action of the International Labor Conference at Geneva, Switzerland, in adopting the convention for the forty-hour week in the textile industry is a progressive step toward the goal of shorter hours for textile workers in all countries. The depressing element in the action of the conference is the narrow margin by which the convention was established. Eighty-eight delegates voted for the convntion, 41 against it, and 38 declined to vote. The convention was therefore adopted by only three votes more than necessary for the required two-thirds majority.

The significance of the minority vote is the fact that the forty-hour week convention, or treaty as it is sometimes called, must be adopted by the treaty-making powers in each of the member nations of the International Labor Organization. This means that the forty-hour week proposal is scheduled for long parliamentary delays because of the fact that employers, with their long hour psychology, dominate most of the legislative bodies of the European and Oriental textile countries. If the action of the employer delegates at both the International Textile Conference held in Washington last April and at this session of the International Labor Conference is indicative of their views, and it undoubtedly is, they will form a formidable block against the adoption of the forty-hour week convention by the governments of their own countries.

Nevertheless, the action of the twenty-third session of the International Labor Conference in adopting the forty-hour week convention for the textile industry of the entire world is a distinct advantage toward a much needed reduction in the hours of labor for the textile workers, especially so inasmuch as the general application of this principle will open many work opportunities for the unemployed.

In this connection, the American Federation of Labor congratulates the members of the American delegation at the Geneva conference for their united and unwavering support of the forty-hour convention. From the beginning of the deliberation to the final balloting, the Government, employer, and worker delegates from the United States carried the brunt of the battle for the convention. Without their support, the conference would have recorded itself against the proposal.

Fine Progress Made By Street Railway and Bus Employes Union

(Continued from Page 1)

through representatives of their own choosing.

Among some of the largest bus companies with whom the Amalgamated Association local Divisions now have agreements are the Pacific Greyhound Lines, the Union Pacific Stages, West Penn Company, Buck Eye Stages, Interstate Transit Lines, and the Red Star Transportation Company. Negotiations are under way with several of the other Greyhound systems.

Ten Years Benefits Total $10,946,942

Among the larger cities recently organized by the Amalgamated are Columbus, Ohio; Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis. The Association already has contractual relations with street railway and bus companies in most of the larger cities throughout the United States and Canada.

Two of the outstanding Divisions of the Amalgamated Association are located in Chicago, where the 14,000 local transportation employes recently negotiated an agreement increasing their wages about $2,000,000 a year, granting the eight-hour day and giving one week's vacation with pay to all employes in service one year or more. In a recent article in The Union Leader, official publication of the Chicago membership, it was pointed out that the sum of $1,019,530.36 was paid out in benefits in 1936 to members or beneficiaries of members of the Chicago Divisions of the Amalgamated Association. In the last ten years total death, disability and old age benefits among the Chicago members or their beneficiaries were in the amount of $10,946,942.42. These include not only the International and local benefits but insurance and special relief systems inaugurated by the Amalgamated unions in Chicago.

HATCH RETIRES AS CHIEF OF UPHOLSTERERS UNION

Cleveland Convention Elects S. B. Hoffman as New President; G. V. Fay Named Secretary-Treasurer.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

James H. Hatch has retired from the presidency of the Upholsterers International Union of North America after serving in that capacity for twenty years. The announcement was made at the recent convention of the Union in Cleveland, Ohio, when Mr. Hatch stated that because of his health he would not be a candidate for reelection.

Mr. Hatch was elected president of the Upholsterers Union in 1907 and filled that office until 1921, when he retired. In 1931 he was drafted back to the office and was reelected in 1933 and in 1935.

The convention elected Sal. B. Hoffman of Philadelphia to the office of president and George V. Fay of New York to the office of secretary-treasurer.

Reports to the convention indicated that the Upholsterers International Union is in a prosperous condition, having more than doubled its membership. The union planned an aggressive campaign to organize all workers in the furniture and bedding industry.

San Diego Butchers Sign Up A. & P. Tea Company Shops

San Diego, Calif. (AFLNS).—The Butchers' Union here has signed every meat cutter in every shop of the A. & P. Tea Company in San Diego County; also, all meat cutters in the retail and jobbing departments of the Central Meat Co., one of the largest concerns here, along with numerous other smaller shops.

PUBLIC EMPLOYES' UNION PROGRESSES IN MINNESOTA

St. Paul, Minn. (AFL[illegible]—Organizers of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes record good results in Minnesota. Twelve chapters have already been established. In addition to chapters in Hastings, St. Peter, Red Wing, Fergus Falls and Duluth, the following local chapters have been set up in St. Paul: State Income Tax Division, Oil Inspection Division, State Office Building, Rural Credits Department, State Game Wardens, and the Weighmasters. A separate branch for the State Board of Control is being organized.

Houston Engineers Finalize Air Conditioning Agreement

Houston, Texas (AFLNS).—Stationary Engineers Local No. 707 of Houston has negotiated an agreement with the Kress Company covering the operation of air conditioning and other equipment which comes under the jurisdiction of the union. The contract was finalized following several weeks of negotiating and just before the deadline neared for a strike.

Many Stores Are Signed Up By Vancouver Retail Clerks

Vancouver, Wash. (AFLNS).—Retail Clerks No. 942 have been conducting a very successful campaign in Vancouver, signing up many chain and independent grocery, drug and novelty stores, including the Safeway Stores. Nearly 200 new members have been added to the union.

At Camas, Wash., Retail Clerks No. 847 also signed the Safeway stores, along with a number of others.

CINCINNATI UNIONS GAIN BETTER PAY AND HOURS

Cane Workers and Candy and Food Workers Negotiate Agreements for Higher Living Standards.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio—Advancement of the workers' economic interests by trade union organization and agreements negotiated with employers continues in Cincinnati. Recent illustrations of the benefits from organization are the agreements negotiated here carrying wage increases and improved work conditions.

The Cane and Craftsmen Local Union No. 2687 finalized a closed shop agreement with the Ficks Reed Company providing for a 20 per cent increase in wages for all employes, a reduction in working hours from 52 to 44 hours per week with time and one-half for overtime and a satisfactory seniority plan. The agreement, which involved about 150 workers, also provided that within fifteen days it would be obligatory upon all employes to join the union.

Candy and Food Workers Local Union No. 335 of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union concluded a closed shop agreement with the Strietman Biscuit Company, involving about 400 workers. The contract established the 40-hour week, with time and one-half for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays. Minimum wages were fixed at 40 cents for females and 50 cents for males, with an immediate increase of five cents per hour for all employes. The agreement also grants one week's vacation with pay.

Ellsworth C. Bundy and James Tone, A. F. of L. organizers in Cincinnati, assisted the unions in finalizing the contracts.

OAKLAND UNIONS REPORT MANY GAINS FOR WORKERS

Auto Salesmen and Cleaning and Dye House Workers Win Wage Increase Agreements; Beauticians Initiate Fifty New Members.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Oakland, Calif.—Local No. 23, International Association of Cleaning and Dye House Workers, has secured an agreement with the Drake cleaners. Drivers had previously secured a contract, making the plant 100 per cent union. The firm also operates 100 per cent union in San Francisco.

An outstanding achievement in labor organization has been attained by the Automobile Salesmen's Local Union No. 1095 of Oakland. Beginning with a few members, only a few weeks ago, the union now embraces over half of the total number of automobile salesmen in Alameda County. An agreement has been negotiated with the East Bay Motor Car Dealers' Association, which represents approximately 85 per cent of the East Bay establishments, and indications are that the union will soon become 100 per cent effective throughout the county.

Beauticians' Union No. 134-A recently adopted a resolution declaring that the local union "stick by the American Federation of Labor and its policies." Fifty new members were initiated at the meeting and it is reported that Alameda County is now fast becoming 100 per cent organized.

BARBERS GAIN NEW UNIONS IN MICHIGAN, WISCONSIN

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Journeymen Barbers' Union No. 448, at Jackson, Mich., met with substantial success in a drive for new members and new working agreements with master barbers. Twenty-two shops now display the famous Union Shop Card, with others likely to come into the fold soon.

Beauticians in Battle Creek, Michigan, have been successful, with the aid of Journeymen Barbers and Other organized groups, in forming a union of their own, which is expected to grow fast in numbers and in results obtained.

Barbers and Beauticians in Kenosha, Wisconsin, report steady progress, with many new shops being organized. Eight beauty parlors now display the Union Shop Card.

Warehousemen's Union Wins Preferential Hiring Pact

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLNS).—The Warehousemen's Union of San Francisco and the Crocker-Union Company have signed an agreement providing for collective bargaining and preferential employment of extra workers, with a provision that such workers hired from other sources than the union shall have the right to make application for union membership after the first two weeks of work. The contract prohibits lockouts and strikes.

Contra Costa County Truck Drivers Add 25 New Members

Richmond, Calif. (AFLNS).—Truck Drivers' Local Union No. 315 of Contra Costa County is among local unions of this craft recently reporting substantial gains, twenty-five new members having been initiated at one recent meeting, with many others, particularly drivers employed by oil companies, expected to line up promptly.

Zioncheck Memorial Library Reports Progress in Seattle

Seattle, Wash. (AFLNS).—The Marion Zioncheck Memorial Association, incorporated here a few weeks ago, has already placed 200 volumes on the shelves of the Seattle Public Library.

Organized as a memorial to the late Congressman Zioncheck, the Association is establishing a library dealing with economics, labor and kindred subjects.

Furniture Workers Organize Two-State District Council

Centralia, Wash. (AFLNS.)—The District Council of Furniture Workers of Oregon and Washington was organized at a meeting of union representatives here.

It is planned to establish uniform wage scales and working hours in every plant in the territory which the new Council represents.

Sit-Down Strike Is Ruled Illegal Under Two Laws By U. S. Court

(Continued from Page 1)

tiff's raw materials and manufactured products from entering the stream or free flow of interstate commerce as to constitute restraint of trade or commerce within the prohibitory provisions of the Sherman act."

"There can be no doubt that they conspired to do what they did," the opinion went on. "The question is whether or not what they did constitutes restraint of interstate commerce as now defined and interpreted, and whether or not they conspired to do it with intent to restrain interstate commerce."

Pointing out that the United States Supreme Court in the Jones & Laughlin case had defined interstate commerce and asserting that "the facts in the present case bring it within that definition," the opinion related that the Apex factory is located here, that its raw silk comes from Japan, its cotton from the South and that 85 per cent of the finished product is sold and shipped across State lines.

The opinion referred to the defendants' argument that it was necessary not only to prove that they obstructed and stopped the free flow of interstate commerce, but also to prove that they conspired with intent to do so.

Conspiracy Is Charged

"None of these defendants," it continued, "would have the temerity to deny that he was a member of a conspiracy. The whole argument addressed to us is that the evidence does not disclose an intent or purpose to interfere with or restrain interstate commerce.

"The defendants, in effect, argue that the purpose of the conspiracy here was not aimed at interstate commerce but at the plaintiff to compel it to yield to their demand for a closed shop and check-off; that, however unlawful their acts were, they were incidental, only a means to an end, and do not constitute a conspiracy in restraint of interstate commerce.

Strikes Must Be Lawfully Conducted

"This argument overlooks the fact that a strike, if lawfully conducted, is in itself lawful and its lawfulness now has statutory recognition. There could be no conspiracy under the Sherman Act or otherwise because of doing a lawful thing. It could not become a conspiracy unless the means employed were unlawful. It may be that the ultimate intent of the conspirators in this case was to force the plaintiff to sign an agreement for a closed shop.

Strikers Used Unlawful Means

"This would be perfectly all right if the defendants had used lawful means to bring it about, but when they used unlawful means—the commission of crimes and of restraint of interstate commerce—they knew exactly what they were doing and must have intended, as rational beings, to do exactly what they did. The ultimate object which they had in view in no way exculpates them from the violation of the Sherman act.

Surrender of Plant to Owners Ordered

"It follows that the decree of the District Court must be reversed with directions forthwith to reinstate the bill, grant the injunctions prayed for and order the defendants immediately to vacate the property and restore it to the possession of the plaintiff, its rightful owner.

"And it is further ordered that the mandate from this court go down without delay and that this court retain jurisdiction of the case so far as is necessary to aid, protect and enforce its appellate jurisdiction."

At the time of the seizure of the plant by the C. I. O. union the company had a weekly pay roll of approximately $76,000. It does an annual business of around $5,000,000.

Galesburg Overall Company Signs Garment Workers Pact

Galesburg, Ill. (AFLNS).—The local union here of the United Garment Workers of America has won a six weeks' strike.

Settlement with the Gross-Galesburg Overall Company is regarded as a definite victory for the union, as the company had previously refused to recognize the union or enter into a contract.

Federal and State labor conciliators and the local Trades Assembly assisted in securing a settlement, which recognized the union as the sole bargaining agency for the company's employes, with "priority of employment" for union members. In case of lay offs on account of slack business, workers who are not members of the union will be laid off first. If the lay off reaches union members in good standing, they are to have priority of employment when the workers are called back.

Teachers Union Ban Killed By St. Louis School Board

St. Louis, Mo. (AFLNS).—Proponents of the "new freedom" might well stand up and shout over an action by the Board of Education here.

By a vote of 11 to 1, the Board rescinded a twenty-year-old rule which forbids school teachers from joining a union, under duress of dismissal.

The Teachers' Union of St. Louis and St. Louis County lead a long and hard fight for freedom to organize and the National Labor Relations Act helped gain the final victory. Already 109 teachers have signified their intention to join the Teachers' Union.

Denver Bakers Union Serves Meals to Unemployed Members

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—A further example of how organized labor tries to "take care of its own" may be found here, where Bakers' Union No. 26 serves meals for unemployed members, mostly victims of the machine age.

From 15 to 35 unemployed members have been fed regularly since 1934, in a room adjoining the union headquarters in Grace Community Church. The annual cost has run around $900, a part of which is raised by an Annual Bakers' Dance.

Cooperative Gasoline Filling Station Is Opened in Denver

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The Consumers' Cooperative Association of Denver, Inc., patterned on the Rochdale plan, has established Denver's first co-operative gasoline filling station.

Products are sold on a cash basis and the Association expects to conform to organized labor's standards, employing members of unions and selling union products.

Dubuque Brewery Workers Gain Pay Boost Agreement

Dubuque, Iowa (AFLNS).—The Star Brewery here has renewed a contract with the Brewery Workers' Union, by which members gained an increase in wages of $2 a week. An effort is under way to stabilize wages and working conditions in the industry in the Upper Mississippi Valley, on the basis of the Dubuque contract, which would cover locals in Clinton, Potosi, Rock Island and possibly other towns.

Twenty-Three Beauty Parlors In Sacramento Are Unionized

Sacramento, Calif. (AFLNS).—Cosmeticians' Union No. 112-A, of Sacramento, associated with the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America, has secured union agreements with 23 beauty shops, which now display the Union Shop Card.

STEUBENVILLE WALL PAPER HELPERS GAIN GOOD PACT

Agreement With Wall Paper Company Stipulates 40-Hour Week, Standard Wage Rates, Seniority Rules, and Bans Struck Work.

Steubenville, Ohio (AFLNS).—An agreement negotiated here by the newly organized Wall Paper Helpers' Union No. 20683, directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, with the Chicago Wall Paper Manufacturing Company of Steubenville, goes a considerable distance in securing fair hours and wages and work conditions for the employes of the company.

The contract provides that eight hours shall constitute a day's work and five days a week's work, with titme and a half for overtime. The usual six holidays are recognized, with double time provided in case work is required on such days.

Seniority rules are provided for filling the more desirable positions and for discharging and rehiring employes. When it is necessary to reduce the personnel because of seasonal slackness the contract provides that the last person hired shall be the first furloughed and that when trade recovers the last one furloughed shall be the first one recalled.

The union reserves the right of its members to refuse to do struck work or perform any work in conflict with the jurisdictional rights of any established local union.

Provision is made for referring grievances to shop committees for negotiation with the management. If the shop committee fails a representative of the union will be called in conference to settle the grievance. If these two efforts fail a representative of the aggrieved employe and a representative of the company shall select a third party to act as a board of arbitration, whose decision shall be binding and final on all concerned.

The following weekly wage rates are included in the agreement:

Grounder No. 1, $20; grounder No. 2, $19; grounder No. 3, $19; grounder No. 4, $20; backtender No. 1, $18; backtender No. 2, $18; backtender No. 3, $19.50; backtender No. 4, $20; backtender No. 5, $20; backtender No. 6, $18; reeler No. 1, $22; reeler No. 2, $21; bundlers, $24; grounder-reeler, $23; roller girls, $16.

There are also provisions that wages shall be paid regularly on a fixed pay day every two weeks, and that hygenic and sanitary conditions shall be maintained in the shop.

James R. Joyce, American Federation of Labor organizer in Steubenville, represented the union in negotiating the agreement.

INDUSTRIAL HOME WORK REGULATED IN TEXAS

Austin, Texas (AFLNS).—Industrial home work in the State of Texas was put under strict regulation by the passage of House Bill No. 424, which was introduced by William Carssow.

Under the new bill, employers must secure a license, paying $50, and each employe a health certificate, costing fifty cents, from the State Board of Health, which has regulatory powers.

The bill covers "piece work" assignment of work done in homes, including pecan shelling and all other food-making and clothing manufacture for the trade. It does not cover products sold by the maker direct to the consumer.

Many Apply for Membership In Los Angeles Laundry Union

Los Angeles, Calif. (AFLNS).—The new local No. 52 of the Laundry Workers International Union here has over 500 signed applications for membership, with no let up in the enthusiasm for organization which animates Los Angeles laundry employes.

Union Agreement With St. Louis Restaurant Ends Eight-Year Job of Waitress As Picket

One Concern Closed After Being Patrolled For Four Years; the Other Agreed to Union Hours, Wages and Work Conditions.

St. Louis, Mo. (AFLNS).—Some sort of a record for continuous picketing service is believed to have been established here by Mrs. Edith Brockman, member of the Waitresses' Union, Local 249. Eight years and two months on the picket line is her record.

For the past three years and eleven months, Mrs. Brockman picketed the Little Bevo Restaurant, carrying an umbrella bearing the legend "We demand a closed shop and union wages." But now she is off that job, because the restaurant finally signed a union agreement.

Prior to the last assignment, Mrs. Brockman spent four years and three months, together with Mrs. Ethel Taylor, president of the Waitresses' local, as a picket on a restaurant in the 4000 block of Olive Street, which eventually folded up and quit.